



Perris News

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Breakfast With Santa Thrills the Little Ones

Lots of stores and charitable organizations hire people to play Santa Claus during the holidays.

But the people who came to Perris' "Breakfast with Santa" said that what separate the City's event from all the others is that they know the REAL Santa comes to the Senior Center to chat with children—young and old—pose for pictures and wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

More than 125 people took part in the annual celebration last weekend, lining up to present Santa with their holiday wish list.

Popular items this year include Legos, Pokemon, Kinect Xbox360, Spiderman apparel, MP3s, Skinny Jeans, dolls and accessories and pogo sticks.

"Perris has the real Santa," said Katie Acosta. "The magic is here. This is so relaxed and friendly. You don't have to wait in line like you do at the mall. This is great."

Acosta came to the event with her 21-month-old daughter, Isabella.

Juliann Campos came with her husband, John; children Adrian, 13; Christian, 10; Adrienna, 7 and Marissa, 6, along with her nephew and niece, Julian Perez, 3, and Alexxis Perez, 2.

"Santa Claus brought us out here," she said. "The kids are excited. They want to have their pictures taken with Santa. The joy on their faces, in their eyes, is why we came out."

Campos said she "loves the City of Perris" for its many community events. Just this month, the City hosted its annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Holiday Parade in addition to Breakfast with Santa. In January, the annual Snow Day is expected to draw hundreds of children to Foss Field Park.

Maribel Nava brought her two children, Juan Carlos, 5, and Alejandra, 2. She said she likes living in Perris because the City sponsors children so they can take part in aquatics, two-kwon do, soccer and football.

"The City of Perris really cares about its residents and its children," Nava said.

Cindi Carvo came to Breakfast with Santa with her husband, Jason and daughter, Dakota, 2. She said she likes the event because it brings the community together and she gets a chance to reconnect with people she hasn't seen in a while.

"It's fun to be around people with kids," she said. "We're all in the Christmas spirit."

Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Joanne Evans helped serve breakfast at the event. Several members of the City's Community Services staff along with volunteers from the California Military Institute worked hours to make sure Breakfast with Santa went off smoothly.

"I'm here because I love it," Evans said. "We love our citizens. We want them to have a good holiday and to know that we care. It's very important to reach out to the community with these type of events."



Santa Claus listens to a Christmas wish list from Dakota Carvo, 2. Also pictured are here parents, Cindi and Jason.



These volunteers worked hours to make sure "Christmas with Santa" went off smoothly.



Perris Mayor Pro-Tem Joanne Evans with Santa Claus.